

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

June 6, 2002

To: Interested Parties**Subject: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING THE RENEWABLE
ENERGY CONSUMER EDUCATION (RECE) PROGRAM
OPPORTUNITY NOTICE (PON) RELEASED ON May 7, 2002**

Following are answers to questions received by May 29, 2002 for the Renewable Energy Consumer Education Program Opportunity Notice.

1. Q: Is there a maximum allowable overhead charge for grant projects for universities?

A: We do not have a cap on allowable overhead charges, however, grant recipients may only bill for actual allowable costs (including overhead). The rate must be fully documented and the costs contained in the overhead rates must be allowable per the terms and conditions of our grant agreement as well as the applicable OMB Circular or Federal Acquisition Regulations. In the case of universities, OMB Circular A-21 applies. If a recipient has their overhead rates approved by a federal agency, we will accept documentation of that approval and will accept that rate.

2. Q: Our school is in the service territory of Imperial Irrigation District. Our project will install a small solar system in our new science building and develop an educational model to take to other schools in our county. Are we automatically excluded because our target area is served by the IID rather than by one of the utilities paying into the Renewable Resource Trust Fund?

A: Although our goal is to fund projects that target the areas served by the investor owned utilities of Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and Southern California Water Company's Bear Valley Electric Service, projects targeting other electric utility areas may still be funded if the activities result in products that benefit and can be used in the utility areas listed above. Also, please note that the funds available under this PON solicitation may not be used to purchase equipment, such as photovoltaic or solar energy systems. Hence, these funds could not be used to pay for the purchase or installation of a solar energy system in your science building. However, these funds could be used to develop and disseminate educational materials on the installation, use or effectiveness of such a solar energy system.

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3. Q: A project must be categorized but is that categorization based on the organization (Public Entity) or based on what the organization would like to accomplish (i.e. New Construction outreach)?

A: The categories are based on what the applicant would like to accomplish with the target audience for the project. For instance, if a public entity plans to promote or provide consumer education or information on renewable energy technologies to the new construction market, the applicant would check the new construction category.

4. Q: Can you provide me with examples of grant projects that have received funding from your program?

A. A summary of grant projects that the Renewable Energy Consumer Education Program has funded can be found on the Energy Commission's Web site at:

**http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/2000_education_projects.html and
http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/2001_education_projects.html**

5. Q: We are a non-profit housing developer. Our mission is to build affordable housing in partnership with low-income families and volunteers from the community. We have plans to build several units of housing using sustainable and recycled building materials as well as renewable energy systems, such as Photovoltaics. Under which category should we apply: New construction outreach or non-profit outreach?

A. This type of project can apply under either of the two categories. The category would depend on the target market for the outreach. The applicant will need to focus the project to one primary market in order to meet the category criteria. If the market for the information, outreach and education is the new construction market (builders, developers, contractors) then that box should be checked. If the target for the outreach program is non-profit organizations, then the box for non-profit category should be checked.

6. Q: The Application form, Exhibit A of the Application package, has a section that requests the expected project start date. What does the parenthetical under this section mean?

A. The "Expected Project Start Date" is the date on which the applicant intends to commence work on the project. The parenthetical in this section is a reminder to applicants that projects can only be funded after the Energy Commission formally

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approves a grant award and signs a grant agreement. The grant award approval process is explained on page 13 of the PON Information and Instructions.

7. Q. In the New Construction outreach project category, is it possible to consider existing building owners and managers? What about owners and operators of operating oil fields?

A. Outreach to owners and managers of existing buildings could fall under the New Construction outreach category given that the proposed project intends to integrate activities and outreach for new structures. Outreach to owners and operators of oil fields does not fall into any of the five project categories specified in the Program Opportunity Notice and is not eligible for grant funding.

8. Q. We just finished doing a Renewable Energy Feasibility study. We determined that we could use solar energy to power the day care center and educate the young children and members of our organization about the benefits of renewable energy. Can you tell us if this kind of project is fundable or not?

A. Funding under this PON solicitation may not be used to purchase equipment, such as solar panels. However, that portion of the project that provides renewable energy information and education to children and others is eligible for funding.

9. Q. Our company will be seeking a grant under the project category “Advertising support”. Are we to provide “advertising support” to the other applicants or can we apply for a grant to create our own full ad campaign for TV and the Internet? Should we apply for funding to purchase airtime for the TV ads?

A. The “advertising support” category is intended to fund projects that publicize renewable energy and its technologies. The application should include the strategy, target audience and delivery mechanism for the advertising campaign. Grant funds may be used to pay for airtime as well as other expenditures, provided the Energy Commission approves the expenditures. Project expenditures should be included as part of the budget in your project work plan. A description of the type of information to be included in a project work plan is provided on page 8 of the PON Information and Instructions.

10. Q. Can a federally recognized Tribe apply for a grant as a non-profit organization?

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- A. In order to apply for a grant as a non-profit entity under the PON an entity or organization must obtain non-profit status pursuant to 26 United States Code section 501(c).**
11. Q. What does it mean by “Registration with the Secretary of State is required before the Commission approves a proposal”?
- A. Pursuant to state law, corporations, limited liability companies and partnerships must register with the California Secretary of State to be qualified to conduct business in California. These entities must also make periodic filings with the California Secretary of State to remain in good standing and continue to conduct business in the state. For information on these registration and filing requirements refer to the California Secretary of State’s Business Portal web page at:**
- <http://www.ss.ca.gov/business/business.htm>
12. Q. Can more than one proposal be submitted by a single individual or entity?
- A. Yes, on page 4 of the PON Information and Instructions under Funding, it states, “applicants can apply for funding for more than one project, however, a separate application must be submitted for each project.”**
13. Q. If multiple proposals are submitted, can a single entity be awarded more than one grant? If so, can a single entity be awarded more than one grant in a funding category?
- A. Yes. A single entity may be awarded more than one grant in the same funding category. However, the grants must be for different projects. A single project may not receive more than one grant award.**
14. Q. Can more than one funding category be covered by a single project? In this case, is the budget available the sum of the categories covered?
- A. No, a project can only cover one category. On page 4 of the PON Information and Instructions under Eligibility Criteria, it states that, “a project must be categorized under one of the five project categories.” An application will be rejected if it does not specify a project category or specifies more than one project category.**
15. Q. Can an individual apply, utilizing a social security number for tax reporting, without having to register with the Secretary of State?

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A. Individuals conducting business as sole proprietorships are not required to register with the California Secretary of State, and may apply for grant funding under the PON using their social security number for tax reporting purposes. Please note that sole proprietorships may be subject to other requirements under the law. For general information on pertinent permit and licensing requirements for sole proprietorships refer to the state's CalGold web page at:
<http://www.calgold.ca.gov/>

Attachment: List of PON Application Requesters

**LIST OF REQUESTER
PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY NOTICE
APPLICATION And TERMS & CONDITIONS**

(As of June 6, 2002)

Released Date: May 7, 2002

Amended Date: May 8, 2002

1. Don Richardson Rich Enterprise 2808 Taft, Hy Suite 14 Bakersfield, CA 93313	2. Rose Harms TMA Inc. 2020 Carey Avenue, Suite 700 Cheyenne, WY 82001
3. Steven Moss M.Cubed 673 Kansas Street San Francisco, CA 94107	4. Deborah Donovan 1950 Geary Road Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
5. Michael J. Greene CDS Consulting 3701 McKinley Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816-3417	6. Karen Smith Chico Enterprise-Record 400 East Park Avenue P.O. Box 9 Chico, CA 95927-0009
7. J. P. Bowles IESC P.O. Box 941 Saratoga, CA 95071	8. Frank Male Energy Conservation Resources P.O. Box 991714 Redding, CA 96099
9. Elvie de la Vega K.M. Urfer Engineering, Inc. 355 McGlincey Lane, Suite H Campbell, CA 95008	10. George Takamura Silicon Valley Language Institute 2510 TownCenter Lane Sunnyvale, CA 94086
11. Judith Gargyi & Associates 1100 E. Amado Rd. #11A-1 Palm Springs, CA 92262	12. Rick Nuessle SunPower Geothermal Energy 125 Larkspur Street, #117 San Rafael, CA 94901
13. Daniel Felperin Fresh Training Concept P.O. Box 755 Cobb, CA 95426	14. Christine Parra Schatz Energy Research Center Humboldt State University Arcata, CA 95521
15. Donna Osborn Stop the Violence, Increase the Peace Foundation 2930 W. Imperial Hwy., Ste. 200A Inglewood, CA 90303	16. Susan L. Koepp-Baker 616 Kay Springs Court Morgan Hill, CA 95037
17. Robert Mckee P.O. Box 8810 Emeryville, CA 94608	18. Shannon Walson KTXL FOX40 4655 Fruitridge Road Sacramento, CA 95820
19. Julia Russell Eco-Home Network 4344 Russell Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90027-4508	20. Hai-Lee Sun 3250 Road I Redwood Valley, CA 95470

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21. Liz Merry Verve Enterprises 2402 Westernesse Road Davis, CA 95616	22. Tim Snellings County of Nevada, CEO's Office 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA 95959
23. Noah Golden Golden Energy 615 Ocean Avenue, #H Santa Monica, CA 90402	24. Ruthanne Cecil Center for Environmental Economic Development P.O. Box 4167 Arcata, CA 95518-4167
25. Bonnie Bair Flintridge Consulting 87 E. Green, Suite 304 Pasadena, CA 91105	26. Rick Piercy Louis Center for Educational Research 17500 Mana Road Apple Valley, CA 92307
27. C.T. Sawabini P.O. Box 80373 San Marino, CA 91108	28. Robert Mckee Gale-Gasterly P.O. Box 8810 Emeryville, CA 94608